

## PITCH CANKER TASK FORCE RESOLUTION (March 1, 2004)

### RESPONDING TO THE DISCOVERY OF PITCH CANKER IN THE SIERRA NEVADA FOOTHILLS

*Fusarium circinatum*, the cause of pitch canker, has been confirmed in the Sierra Nevada foothills. Through proactive efforts of the USDA. Forest Service, the North Sierra Tree Improvement Association, and the University of California, two infected trees were identified and work is underway to determine whether those trees remain infected, and whether or not the pathogen can be detected in adjacent trees. The Pitch Canker Task Force would like to commend those involved in these efforts and to formally endorse pursuit of the following objectives.

1. Determine the extent and nature of *Fusarium circinatum* infection on Douglas-fir in the Sierra Nevada Foothills.
2. Determine if other tree species and other areas in the Sierra Nevada are infested.
3. Investigate the pathways and origin of this new detection of *Fusarium circinatum*.
4. Determine whether suppression treatments would be appropriate.
5. Develop an appropriate mitigation response that addresses the possibility of additional detections within the Sierra Nevada and other forested areas of the State; determine resources needed and secure funding to adequately address the issue.

The Pitch Canker Task Force encourages both public and private financial support to meet these objectives.